

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

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R 220028Z JAN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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FOLLOWING JOHANNESBURG 0104 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ADDIS
ABABA BONN BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN DUBLIN THE HAGUE LUXEMBOURG
PARIS PRETORIA ROME TEL AVIV GENEVA CAPE TOWN JAN. 20;
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB SF XA PFOR

SUBJECT: BLACK TRADE UNION REACTIONS TO ICFTU BOYCOTT

REF JOHANNESBURG 088 (NOTAL)

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PAGE 02 STATE 014469

1. SUMMARY: THE INDIFFERENCE OF BLACK TRADE UNION LEADERS
IN SOUTH AFRICA TOWARD THE CURRENT ICFTU BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN
IS RELATED TO A GROWING SELF AWARENESS WHICH COULD BE
SYMPTOMATIC OF A TREND TOWARD A MORE DYNAMIC AND AGGRESSIVE BLACK
LABOR MOVEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL BLACK TRADE UNIONS HAVE PUBLICLY EXPRESSED INDIFFERENCE TOWARD THE CURRENT ICFTU BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT CONSULTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BODY WHEN IT PLANNED ITS WEEK OF ACTION. EMMA MASHININI, SECRETARY OF THE COMMERCIAL CATERING AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION, IS QUOTED IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY THE STAR AS SAYING "NOBODY ABROAD THINKS WE ARE IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO BE CONSULTED ABOUT SOMETHING THAT AFFECTS OUR LIVES AS WELL. I DO NOT APPROVE OF ANYBODY DOING THINGS FOR ME WITHOUT FIRST CONSULTING ME...WE BLACKS MUST BE INITIALLY CONSULTED ON ANY PLANS THAT ARE AIMED FOR OUR SO CALLED UPLIFTMENT OR OTHERWISE."

3. DAN TAU, SECRETARY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHEMICAL WORKERS' UNION SAID IT IS DIFFICULT TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BOYCOTT" BECAUSE WE ARE NOT AFFILIATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL BODY AND DO NOT KNOW THE INSIDE STORY OF ITS PLANS AND VIEWS."

4. JANE HLONGWANE, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE ENGINEERING AND THE WORKERS UNION SAID THAT THE FAILURE OF THE ICFTU TO "GET OUR FEELINGS MAKES US INDIFFERENT TO THIS WHOLE ISSUE...
9.358.3 -:589, 5#-5 -43 8,53,\$3\$ *94 974 &99\$:-, #-;3
- \$-,&3497 ?-:()- # ?48,&8,& 7**348,& 59 5#9 3 2#9. 85
#97)\$ #-;3 ?3,3*8553\$."

5. COMMENT: MASHININI, TAU AND HLONGWANE ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE URBAN TRAINING PROJECT (UTP), SEVERAL OF WHOSE MEMBERS WERE SERVED WITH THE BANNING ORDES TWO MONTHS AGO WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 014469

PROVOKED THE ICFTU CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA (SEE REFTEL).. HLONGWANE, WHO HAS TAKEN OVER THE EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP OF THE UTP, AND OTHER BLACK TRADE UNION LEADERS, HAVE EXPRESSED TO THE REGIONAL LABOR OFFICER THAT FEELING THAT THE 30 BLACK TRADE UNIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA MUST EVENTUALLY FORM A NEW CONFEDERATION IN ORDER TO EFFECTIVELY DEFEND THE INTERESTS OF BLACK WORKERS. THE BANNING ORDERS WHICH WERE SERVED AGAINST WHITE LABOR LEADERS, WHO SUPPORTED THE BLACK UNIONS, AND THE AMBIVALENCE OF THE MULTI-RACIAL TRADE UNION COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA (TUCSA) ARE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT CAUSES OF THIS GROWING SELF AWARENESS WHICH COULD BE THE BEGINNING OF A MORE DYNAMIC AND AGGRESSIVE BLACK LABOR MOVEMENT. JOHNSON UNQUOTE HABIB

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, BOYCOTTS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 22-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: AF/I:LPSLEZAK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770024-0510
Format: TEL
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
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SAS ID: 3529504
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: BLACK TRADE UNION REACTIONS TO ICFTU BOYCOTT
TAGS: ELAB, PFOR, SF, XA
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Type: TE
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